

AMENDMENTSIn the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A surface protection composition comprising:
a polymer having at least five mole percent, based on the total mole percent of the polymer, of one or more amide monomer units,
wherein said one or more amide monomer units is free of nitrogen linkages ~~linked to~~ linking the polymer backbone ~~[[in]]~~ to the side chains.
2. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said amide monomer has at least one amide moiety in the polymer backbone, in the polymer side chains, or in both.
3. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 2, wherein when the amide moiety is in the side chain then the monomer is free of amine linkages.
4. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said amide is a mono- or di-substituted amide.
5. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1, said one or more amide monomer units further comprising N,N dimethylacrylamide, N,N diethylacrylamide, N-isopropylacrylamide, acryloyl morpholin, or mixtures thereof.
6. (Previously presented) A substrate treated with the surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of glass, metal, wood, ceramic, plastic, textile, fabric, leather, fiber glass, cement, dishware, silverware, flooring, tile, concrete, paper, and fiber-board.
7. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer composition comprises at least 30 percent by weight of water.

8. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer is an amide homopolymer.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Currently amended) The surface protection composition of claim [[14]] 1 wherein said polymer further comprises at least 25 mole percent of one or more non-amide monomer(s).
16. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer further comprises at least one anionic monomer.
17. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 16 wherein said anionic monomer is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids, di-carboxylic acids, sulfonic acids and phosphonic acids.
18. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer further comprises from 1 to 50 mole percent of one or more hydrophobic monomers.
19. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer further comprises from 0.1 to 20 mole percent of at least one hydroxy alkyl urea monomer.

20. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 wherein said polymer composition further comprises from 5 to 70 percent by weight of at least one surfactant.
21. (Previously presented) The surface protection composition of claim 1 further comprising one or more ingredients from the group consisting of surfactants, builders, ion exchangers, alkalies, anticorrosion materials, antiredeposition materials, optical brighteners, fragrances, dyes, chelating agents, enzymes, whiteners, brighteners, antistatic agents, sudsing control agents, solvents, hydrotropes, bleaching agents, perfumes, bleach precursors, water, buffering agents, soil removal agents, soil release agents, softening agents, opacifiers, inert diluents, buffering agents, corrosion inhibitors, graying inhibitors, stabilizers, humectants, anti-microbial agents, and fungicides.
22. (Previously presented) A method of protecting a substrate from environmental factors comprising:
forming a protective polymer composition, said polymer composition having a polymer having at least five mole percent of one or more amide monomer units, wherein said amide monomer(s) is free of amine linkages; and
applying said protective composition to a substrate.
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said protective composition is applied to said substrate by spraying, immersing and/or brushing.
24. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said protective composition is aqueous-based.
25. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein said protective composition is formulated as a laundry detergent, a dishwasher detergent, a fabric softener, a rinse aid, an anti-wrinkle spray, a hard-surface cleaner/disinfectant, a personal care product, a water-treatment, a concrete additive, or a metal-working fluid.

26. (Previously presented) A surface protection composition comprising:

a polymer having at least five mole percent, based on the total mole percent of the polymer, of one or more amide monomer units and from 0.1 to 20 mole percent of at least one hydroxy alkyl urea monomer,

wherein the amide monomer(s) is free of amine linkages in the side chains.